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KARMAL APPOINTS ACTING DEFENSE MINISTER

LD051736 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Jan 82

[Text] In accordance with a decree issued on 4 January 1982 by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council and supreme army commander, on the appointment of Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader as acting minister of defense. The decree states as follows:

Comrade Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader, vice chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, you are hereby informed that you will supervise the affairs of the Ministry of Defense in the absence of Comrade Lt Gen Mohammad Rafi', the DRA minister of defense. This appointment takes effect from the date that this decree is issued.

Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, introduced Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader to the Ministry of Defense personnel at 0900 today at the Ministry of Defense headquarters.

EYEWITNESSES ON SOVIET CHEMICAL WARFARE

DW050948 Bonn DIE WELT in German 2/3 Jan 82 p 6

[Walter H. Rueb article as part of series on Afghanistan: "Paralysis, Blindness, Death: Doomsday in Farah"]

[Excerpts] "It did not burn when I first got the smoke in my eyes...but afterwards the world grew darker by the hour. I was still able to see in the subsequent days, but when 5 days had passed I was no longer able to perceive anything..."

With a faltering, low voice, Sarasker of Khakesafid tells his story. The Afghan liberation fighter is hospitalized in a clinic in the Pakistani city of Lahore: He became blind after the use of chemical weapons by the Soviets.

One of the blind man's physicians says that "not even in the annals of Soviet history will this war go down as a great patriotic war. The question only is whether the Russians really have the nerve to represent massacres and annihilation attempts with chemical weapons against the Afghan people as fraternal aid."

If the hopes and forecasts of the Lahore physicians come true, Sarasker will be able to resume fighting in mid-1982. Sarasker is happy, the commander of his front nearly more so. Perhaps he will get one of his best fighters back, and the liberation fighters would be rid of a great financial burden. Granted, they prefer to rally under the banner of Islam instead of under the red banner of socialism and communism. Just the same, the commandments of solidarity are not alien to them at all. And Golyan Ferahie would no longer need to venture on the toilsome, time-consuming and expensive 4,000-km trip from Farah to Iran, through all of Baluchistan and then from Quetta to Lahore to the sickbed of his fighter...

The 38-year-old former mathematics teacher at Kabul's pedagogical college does not like to talk about the past, let alone about the issue "chemical weapons." He is close-mouthed, his facial expression is grim. "The world just doesn't believe us," he utters. "And the Russians so far have successfully denied that they intend to destroy us with chemical weapons."

"To this day we have been without heavy arms," Golyan laments. His right hand is clenched to a fist. A magnificent ring with a brown stone dominates it. "This is why we cannot launch any offensive operations. But we are strong in the defensive. Whenever the Russians attack us they suffer heavy losses...

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NEW LOCAL ORGAN, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW PASSED

LD112238 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] With the victory of the April Revolution in the country, besides the socioeconomic and political changes, a series of measures have been taken concerning the changing of the government administration apparatus in order to democratize social life and the government apparatus and bring about a healthy, democratic administration at the service of the people, and other national-democratic goals in the interest of the people, which are the basic aims of the DRA.

In accordance with this humane, national and democratic principle a series of positive and beneficial improvements have occurred in the government departments and, in particular, in the country's judicial organs. The law of criminal investigation and the legality of its realization by the prosecutor's office were approved by the DRA Revolutionary Council and were implemented. The enforcement of this law prepares the ground for the consolidation and enforcement of democratic laws, the strengthening of the revolution's legality and the prevention and elimination of crime.

In order to enforce the law justly on those to be punished for crimes, and so that no innocent people come under judicial surveillance, a time limit has been set for the prosecutor's offices in implementing laws and thus positive and broad steps have been taken in safeguarding the values of the April Revolution and its new development stage and in maintaining justice.

The DRA has entrusted the people themselves with the solution of problems related to them from the village level to the level of subdistricts, districts, cities and provinces, free from racial, national, religious, tribal and linguistic prejudices. As is stated in the DRA Basic Principles, Chapter VI, Article (?51), under the title of the DRA State Law on Local Organs and Administration: Local councils and local jirgas will be formed in the provinces, cities, districts, subdistricts and villages to solve all local issues. The method of the democratic election of the people's representatives in the local jirgas and councils, and issues related to their organization, responsibility and activity are to be directed by law.

This democratic and national principle not only counts as one of the more basic democratic principles but is in accord with the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam. It is according to this accepted democratic and progressive principle that the DRA Government drafted the DRA State Law on Local Organs and Administration with 10 chapters and 87 articles and submitted it to the Revolutionary Council. The draft of the DRA State Law on Local Organs and Administration, which has been brought to the information of our compatriots throughout the country for analysis and advice, is indicative of the fact that the DRA seeks to pursue its policies and measures for the prosperity of the county in light of the views, opinions, proposals, criticism and intentions of the people.

This act of the government is a great manifestation of democracy and freedom of action and speech. This is another important and beneficial step toward the consolidation of the people's power in the homeland and on maintaining the broad participation of people in the homeland and on maintaining the broad participation of people in the construction of a new, just society in the country. Fortunately, this measure by the revolutionary government has been warmly welcomed by the broad masses of the people, workers, religious leaders, elders, poets, writers, intellectuals, scientists, artisans, students, pupils, teachers and civil servants. This has been shown by various meeting held in the country supporting the law and announcing their support. There is no doubt that, after the expression of views, beliefs, proposals and healthy, constructive and patriotic criticism and its approval [words indistinct], the DRA State Law on Local Organs and Administration will come to pass for the first time in the country's history. The law will contain the true and humane hopes of the persecuted and oppressed people of our country.

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The FBIS DAILY REPORT for 14 January 1982, No 009, was not published.

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SOVIET OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY DIRECTING PURGE

PM141315 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 14 Jan 82 p 4

[Report by "Our New Delhi correspondent": "Russia Directs Purge of Kabul Party"]

[Text] Two Soviet deputy ministers resident in Kabul are reported to be masterminding a sweeping purge of Afghanistan's People's Democratic (communist) Party, which has begun at the party's lower levels.

The renewal of membership cards, due to be completed by March, is being used to rid the party of members considered unreliable by the Russian high command, but diplomatic sources say major personalities will not be touched until much later.

One of the Soviet vice-ministers resident in Kabul since October is Marshal Sokolov whose stay is also obviously meant to ensure better direction of an anti-guerrilla winter offensive. The other Soviet vice-minister has not been identified.

BAKHTAR CITES IRANIAN SOURCES ON REBELS

LD141014 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Text] Kabul, 12 Jan (BAKHTAR) -- The political observer of BNA [BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY] in connection with the crimes of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries do not confine themselves only to the scheming and launching of intrigues and crimes against the DRA. [sentence as received]

The involvement of the blood-stained hands of these mercenaries in all the conspiracies, intrigues and crimes against the peoples of Iran and Pakistan are quite clear. Ample documents testify to the fact that, for a few bucks they have beheaded tens of Iranian and Pakistani families.

These elements in the service of the infernal American espionage organisation, CIA, the Israeli Mossad intelligence service and espionage services of Pakistan, China, Egypt and Saudi Arabia are engaged in arms trade and smuggling of drugs.

To unmask the true faces of these so-called defenders of Islam we refer to facts and documents and by mentioning the undeniable facts we ncover the crimes committed by these counter-revolutionary elements.

A number of counter-revolutionary elements after fleeing to Iran committed unforgivable crimes in this country and with the help of CIA have been engaged in anti-revolutionary activities against this country.

Among this, the deputy minister of interior of Iran, in one of his interviews with the daily ETTELA'AT of Iran said, we know well that among the Afghan emigres there are groups following the American lines. The paper called upon the people to place at the disposal of the Iranian authorities those documents that would testify to the connections of these counter-revolutionary groups of Afghanistan.

The daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI of Iran writes concerning the links of the Afghan counter-revolutionary bands with the Egyptian regime:

In fact all the groups supported by Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are Americans. They are traitors, mercenaries and they only serve the U.S. purposes.

The paper has pointed out that the Muslim people of Afghanistan have driven them away.

Daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI unveils the conspiracies of counter-revolutionaries and their allies and exposes the connections of their leaders with C.I.A. and with the spying networks of China, Pakistan, Israel and Egypt.

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BREZHNEV, SATTAR EXCHANGE MESSAGES ON TIES

BK251535 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Dacca, 25 Jan (AFP) -- Soviet chief of state Leonid Brezhnev and Bangladesh President Abdus Sattar have exchanged messages to mark the 10th anniversary today of the establishment of diplomatic relations between their two countries.

The day is being celebrated in both Dacca and Moscow through exhibitions, film shows and seminars.

Mr Brezhnev, in his message, expressed the hope that bilateral relations would develop further for the welfare of the two peoples and would serve the cause of strengthening peace in Asia and the world.

In his message, President Sattar recalled the valuable Soviet assistance to Bangladesh during difficult times and also noted the fruitful cooperation between Dacca and Moscow in various international forums.

"As we enter the second decade of relations between Bangladesh and the USSR, I am confident that our cooperation will further widen and grow in depth to the mutual benefit of our two peoples."

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Bangladesh Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq also exchanged messages.

On Saturday, a spokesman of the Soviet Embassy in Dacca termed the anniversary a "very important event and an historic occasion" in the development of all round relationship between the two friendly nations.

He expressed satisfaction at the growth of bilateral trade relations over the years and said that at present the trade gap was reduced to almost nill. Total trade turnover between Dacca and Moscow in 1981 stood at 57.6 million rubles compared to 36.6 million rubles in 1976.

MUSLIM LEAGUE PARTY CHIEF DIES IN DACCA

BK251539 Hong Kong AFP in English 0837 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Dacca, 25 Jan (AFP) -- Khan A. Sabur, chief of the rightist Muslim League Party and a veteran parliamentarian, died at a Dacca hospital today at age 74, it was reported here.

The official BSS agency said that Mr Sabur had been admitted to the hospital about a week ago with acute heart trouble and bronchial asthma.

A former communications minister in Ayub regime of united Pakistan, Khan A. Sabur revived his party in the late seventies after a 4-year ban imposed by Sheykh Mujib's post-liberation government.

He was elected to the new Parliament in 1979 from three constituencies in Khulna but later vacated from two of them.

BRIEFS

JUTE TO USSR -- The Soviet Union will receive 84,000 bales of raw jute worth about 140 million taka from Bangladesh. A contract to this effect was signed between the two countries in Dacca on 19 January. [Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Jan 82 BK]

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TANJUG INTERVIEWS QADER ON ARMY'S ROLE

LD271046 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0937 GMT 27 Jan 82

[By TANJUG special correspondent Breten Petrovic]

[Text] Kabul, 27 Jan (TANJUG) -- The Soviet Armed Forces will not withdraw from Afghanistan, despite resolutions adopted by the United Nations and nonaligned countries, as long as the Afghan Army is not strong enough to itself deal with rebels aided, it is claimed here, by world imperialism.

The recently appointed acting defense minister, Col. Gen. 'Abdol Qader, has told TANJUG that, under the present circumstances, it is not at all essential how long such a process will take.

Gen. Qader was in command of the military units which, eight years ago, toppled the monarchy and brought President Daud to power and, in April 1978, carried out a military coup that toppled Daud and made the United People's Democratic Party take power over in Afghanistan.

At the time of the entry of Soviet troops into Afghanistan in December 1979, Qader was in prison waiting for execution. Then, Gen. Qader was appointed acting defense minister with the aim of rebuilding confidence among the population, particularly among the young, in the Afghan Army and preventing its further drop-out.

In December 1979, the Afghan Army had some 100,000 troops, whereas today, according to some claims, it has no more than 40,000 troops. However, Gen. Qader sees the problem of deserting from the Afghan Army as a problem already overcome and one which has no essential influence on the further growth and strengthening of Afghanistan's armed forces.

Observers in Kabul have different explanations. Many troops have deserted, they say, from the Afghan Army and sided with the rebels. Besides, it is claimed, some 18,000 troops have been sent abroad for training, primarily to the Soviet Union.

There are two systems for filling up army ranks in Afghanistan, Gen. Qader underlined. All those fully grown are dutybound to report to military authorities. However, this process has not gone in line with wishes, Gen. Qader admitted. Another system consists in recruiting voluntaries from among those who previously had been ideologically trained at party and youth schools.

Also underway is the process of convincing leaders of many Afghan tribes to defend their villages and territories for themselves. Commanders and soldiers of regular army units, then members of the voluntary army party and youth cadres engaged in field work legally or illegally, take part in this process of bringing the government and people closer together, as this drive is officially called.

Gen. Qader is deeply convinced that the Afghan Army will grow into a force capable of defending the revolution by itself. He was unable, however, to fix the time needed for that growth, also emphasizing that the Soviet troops will be ever present in the meantime, offering all aid needed. In (?higher) relief, the Afghan Army will have a significant role in the future, like that played by the Cuban and Vietnamese armies.

Babrak Karmal, president of the Revolutionary Council and secretary-general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, stated last May:

"Not far away is the day when our army will become a strong and energetic army capable of defending peace and security not only in Afghanistan, but in the region as well."

At that time, Babrak Karmal did not say which region he had in mind.

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[Free Voice of Iran]

SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD280708 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0438 GMT 28 Jan 82

[Text] Kabul, 27 Jan (BAKHTAR) -- A high-level delegation of State Planning Consultative Committee of the Soviet Union headed by Bolgakov, a high-ranking member of that committee, arrived in Kabul today.

The delegation will participate in the discussions of the Afghan-Soviet sub-commission for economic planning cooperation, to be held by the state commission on permanent economic cooperation between the DRA and the Soviet Union.

Talks Begin

LD282212 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 28 Jan 82

[Text] The first meeting of the Afghan-Soviet subcommission on planning cooperation began this morning at the headquarters of the State Planning Committee.

The Afghan delegation is headed by the State Planning Committee deputy minister for statistics and the Soviet delegation is headed by Bulgakov, Soviet State Planning Committee consultative member.

The delegation arrived yesterday in Kabul within the framework of the DRA-USSR permanent economic cooperation commission.

RATEBZAD DEPARTS ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO CUBA

LD271612 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Jan 82

[Text] Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan [DWOA], today left at the head of a delegation for Havana on an official and friendly visit at the invitation of Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Federation of Cuban Women.

Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; Mahmud Barialay, secretary and candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; members of the party Central Committee and Council of Ministers; the secretary responsible for the DWOA; other members of the executive council; and the Cuban ambassador in Kabul bade Dr Anahita Ratebzad farewell at Kabul International Airport.

BAKHTAR REPORTS CAPTURE OF 'CRIMINALS'

LD270600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 27 Jan 82

[Text] Kabul, 26 Jan (BAKHTAR) -- Many counter-revolutionaries, these enemies of the country and peaceful life of the people, were recently crushed by the security forces and defenders of revolution in Qonduz, Baghlan and Badghisat Provinces and a number of these manslaughters and criminals were seized alive.

A group of these counter-revolutionaries attempted to burn a girl's highschool in Hazrati Iman District. But they were smashed by the security forces of that district and the school was saved. Their ringleaders named Aazam, Abdul Razaq and Atham Big were eliminated.

Also anotherband of these enemies of the country and revolution were smashed in Pol-e Khomri District of Baghlan Province recently. A lot of their arms and weapons were seized.